

Employment and Fertility' in India

Dr. Santosh Singh Associate Professor,
Department of Sociology
D.A.K. Degree College, Moradabad UP India.

Abstract-

The world is facing various problems. This ever-increasing population is posing a serious threat to mankind. One important problem is population explosion. For our survival, we have to check human being production. Everybody knows Spencer theory says this world is a place, where only fittest people survive. It is assumed that employment does control birth rate/fertility. So, in this paper which is based on secondary data. I am going to study the impact of employment on fertility rates.

Key Words- Population, Employment, Fertility Birth Rates. Death Rates, Mortality Rates, Control, Check, Population Explosion.

Without wasting time, it is high time, humanity should wake up. The continuation of this growth would to doubling of population within twenty-five years. According to Julian Huxley the rapid population growth is the gravest problem of our times. This rapid growth is possible due to the improvement of health services and sharp fall in the rate of mortality. The birth rate of the population is 35 to 40 percent per 1000 population. Whereas death rate is 15 to 20 percent per 1000 population. It is estimated that 130 million babies are born per year. With the result 70 million people are added each year.

India is the second most population country in the world. It has 16 percent population. So, the population of the world and India in particular has to be given a thought. If in India, the population is not checked, then our progress will be curbed. So, it is clear that in India the growth of population is only because of high fertility rate and low mortality rate.

In this paper I want to study, how close are fertility and employment of women. We know when a woman is working, she has to spend a

lot of energy and time. In other words, woman cannot afford for more number of children. Definitely she will have less number of children. In a way sometimes employment of women can serve as a contraceptive in controlling the fertility. For employment you need education, if you have high education, one may get high jobs and vice-versa. Employment brings some aspirations for woman, which makes her to think about her development. Slowly the economic independence also allows to think independently.

Employment gives outside exposure which is necessary to bring social changes in our lives.

Objective-

It is an attempt to study the impact of employment on fertility with the assumption that employed women tend to have lesser number of children as compared to housewives.

In view of above assumptions, it is most urgent to make a systematic approach and try to understand as to how does employment of women can influence her fertility rate as compared to housewives.

Research design-

In this study, an attempt is made to study with the help of secondary data. Few studies are being stated here.

Theoretical Perspective-

There are lots of studies on population. When we discuss the population theories Thomas Robert Malthus name has to be taken at the first. His theory is a landmark in the history of demography. Malthus stated that the growth of population is much faster than the food production.

Durkheim stated that that increase in density of the population leads to the reduction of the means of subsistence.

Doubleday diet theory; says that in India poor people have high fertility as compared to rich people. Economic theories say that economic factor is responsible for having a less number of children. Beckers economic theory states that fertility rate is directly related to the income of parents. So here it is crystal clear that employment does play an important role in controlling birth rate. Having the knowledge of theoretical perspectives in relation to the objective of studying employment and fertility in India.

Review of Literature-

Feinstein and Bam kale in Lagos, Nigeria studied the relationships between female employment and fertility. It was found that

mothering and working tended to conflict only if employment taken in formal sector. Reed and Richard studied the relationship between female work and fertility. They found that the fertility rates varied because working women were using contraceptives. Another study by Kamu Zora and Chmura in a district named Bukoba in Tanzania. The results show that poverty was the main cause of high fertility. Sweetin USA found that women with larger number of children were found to be less able to engage themselves in employment.

Barth et al. Found that the rise in women's employment as the primary cause of the recent decline in fertility.

On the basis theoretical perspectives and review of literature, we come to the conclusion that employment of ever married women does play an important factor in decreasing the fertility rate. Employment itself matters most in the sense that whether it is at home or outside, whether bearing or rearing of children is separated from job or combined with job. Employed women is naturally at loss of time, so she tries to combine her work whether at formal/informal sector with the family chores. So, it is a very small advice to govt. to provide employment to women of India if at all we want that population should decrease. It is a known fact that population is exploding speedily.

References

1. Agarwal S.N.- India's population Problem. Tata McGraw Hill Publication Co. New Delhi.
2. Agarwal S. N.-A Demographic Study of six Urbanizing villages. Asia Publishing House London 1970.
3. Arora G. Caste, Socio-economic status and fertility- A study of proximate determinants of fertility in village Riwasa-Guru Nanak Journal of Sociology.vol-6, oct.1985.G.N.D.U.Press. Amritsar